

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A metal golf clubhead having a strike face which has a loft angle α of greater than 45° , said strike face having a plurality of parallel, substantially horizontal grooves wherein the strike face comprises means for increasing ball spin, including a surface roughness Ra of less than 0.25 micrometre, and a Vickers hardness of greater than ~~5~~12 GigaPascal.

2. (Previously Amended) The golf clubhead according to Claim 1, wherein the surface roughness Ra of the strike face is less than 0.15 micrometre.

3. (Previously Amended) The golf clubhead according to Claim 1, wherein the strike face is maraging steel.

4. (Currently Amended) The golf clubhead according to Claim 1, ~~wherein the~~
additionally comprising a ceramic strike face is a ceramic composition.

5. (Currently Amended) The golf clubhead according to Claim 4, wherein the ceramic strike face comprises a composition is selected from the group consisting of silicon carbide, boron carbide, titanium carbide, zirconia, alumina, and combinations thereof.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Amended) The golf clubhead according to Claim 1, wherein the surface roughness Ra of the strike face is greater at the bottom of the strike face than at the top thereof.

8. (Currently Amended) A metal golf clubhead having a strike face which has a loft angle α of greater than 45°, said strike face having a plurality of parallel, substantially horizontal grooves wherein the strike face comprises means for increasing ball spin, including a surface roughness Ra of less than 0.25 micrometre, and a Vickers hardness of greater than 5 GigaPascal
~~The golf clubhead according to claim 1,~~ wherein said strike face having said surface roughness and said hardness is uncoated and thus exposed for directly contacting a golf ball.

9. (New) A metal golf clubhead additionally comprising a ceramic strike face which has a loft angle α of greater than 45°, said strike face having a plurality of parallel, substantially horizontal grooves wherein the strike face comprises means for increasing ball spin, including a surface roughness Ra of less than 0.25 micrometre, and a Vickers hardness of greater than 5 GigaPascal.

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10. (New) The golf clubhead according to claim 9, wherein the ceramic strike face comprises a composition selected from the group consisting of silicon carbide, boron carbide, titanium carbide, zirconia, alumina, and combinations thereof.